

# **2016 LEGAL ASSISTANT CONFERENCE**

April 29, 2016  
Prescott Resort & Conference Center  
Prescott, Arizona



## **ARISTOTLE TO EINSTEIN: CONFIRMATION BIAS**

Presented By:

**JASON KALISH**  
Deputy Maricopa County Attorney

Distributed By:

**ARIZONA PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS' ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
1951 West Camelback Rd., Suite 202  
Phoenix, Arizona 85015

# Aristotle to Einstein



Avoiding Confirmation Bias

# Confirmation Bias

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œ A recent analysis of psychological studies with nearly 8,000 participants concluded that people are twice as likely to seek information that confirms what they already believe as they are to consider evidence that would challenge those beliefs.



# Confirmation Bias

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- ⌘ Affects
- ⌘ Businessmen
- ⌘ Scientists
- ⌘ Lawyers
- ⌘ All human beings

# Confirmation Bias



∞ It is not weakness  
to recognize that  
your brain works  
this way

# The Greeks



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Plato



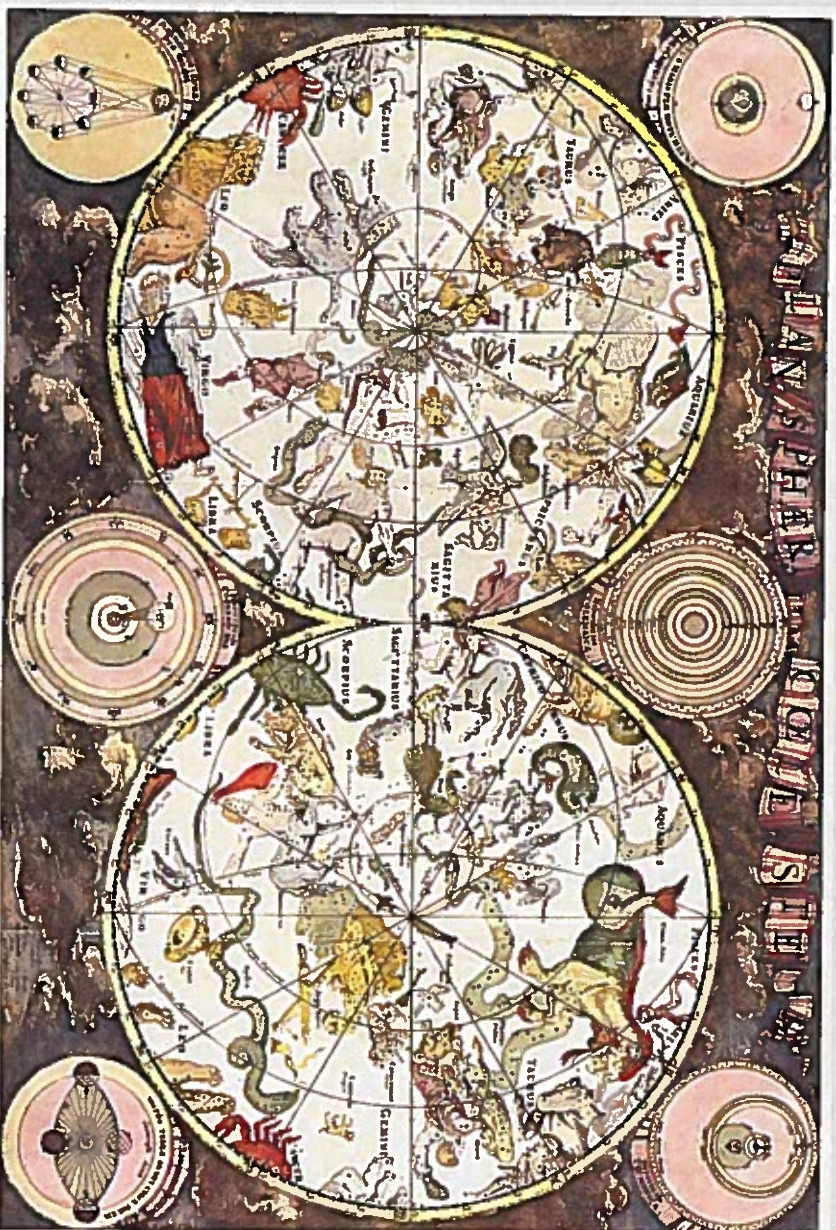
Aristotle







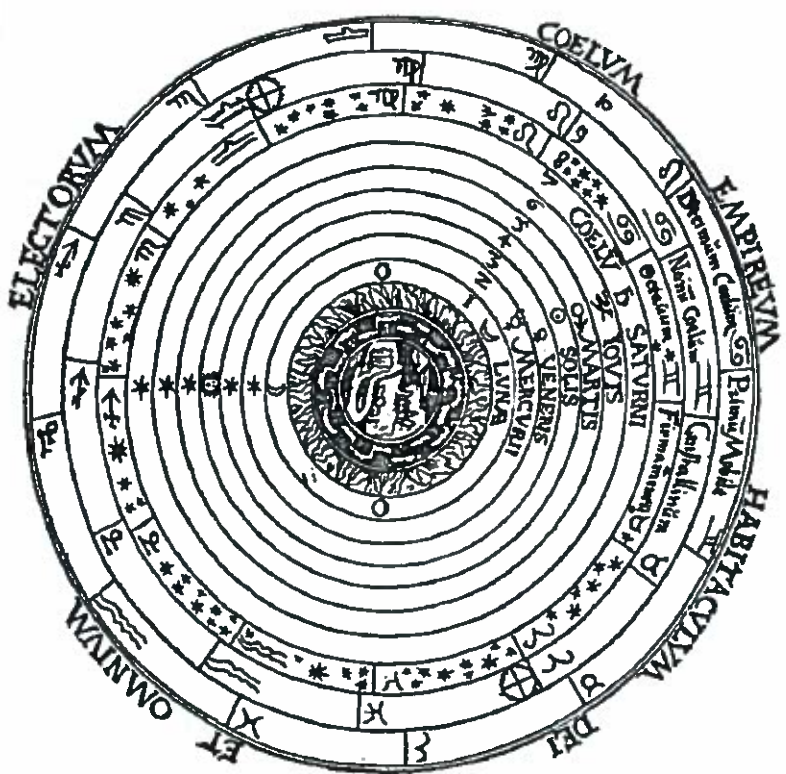
# Star Chart







# Celestial Spheres



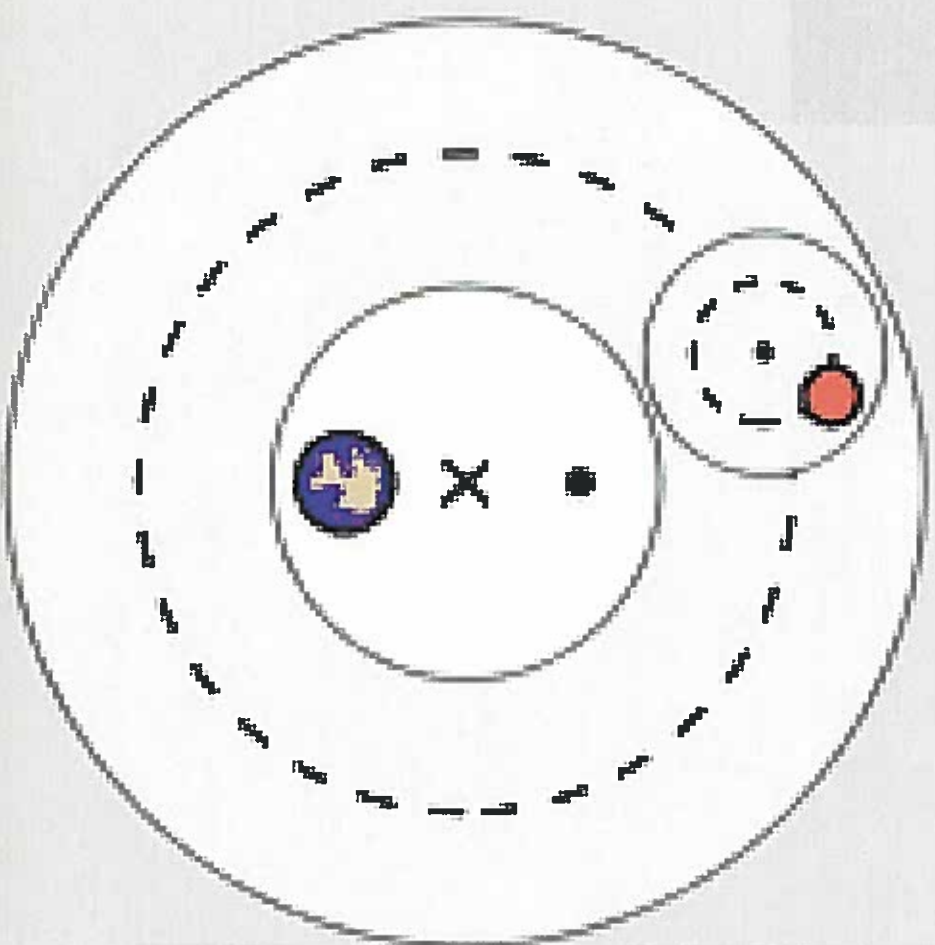


# Ptolemy



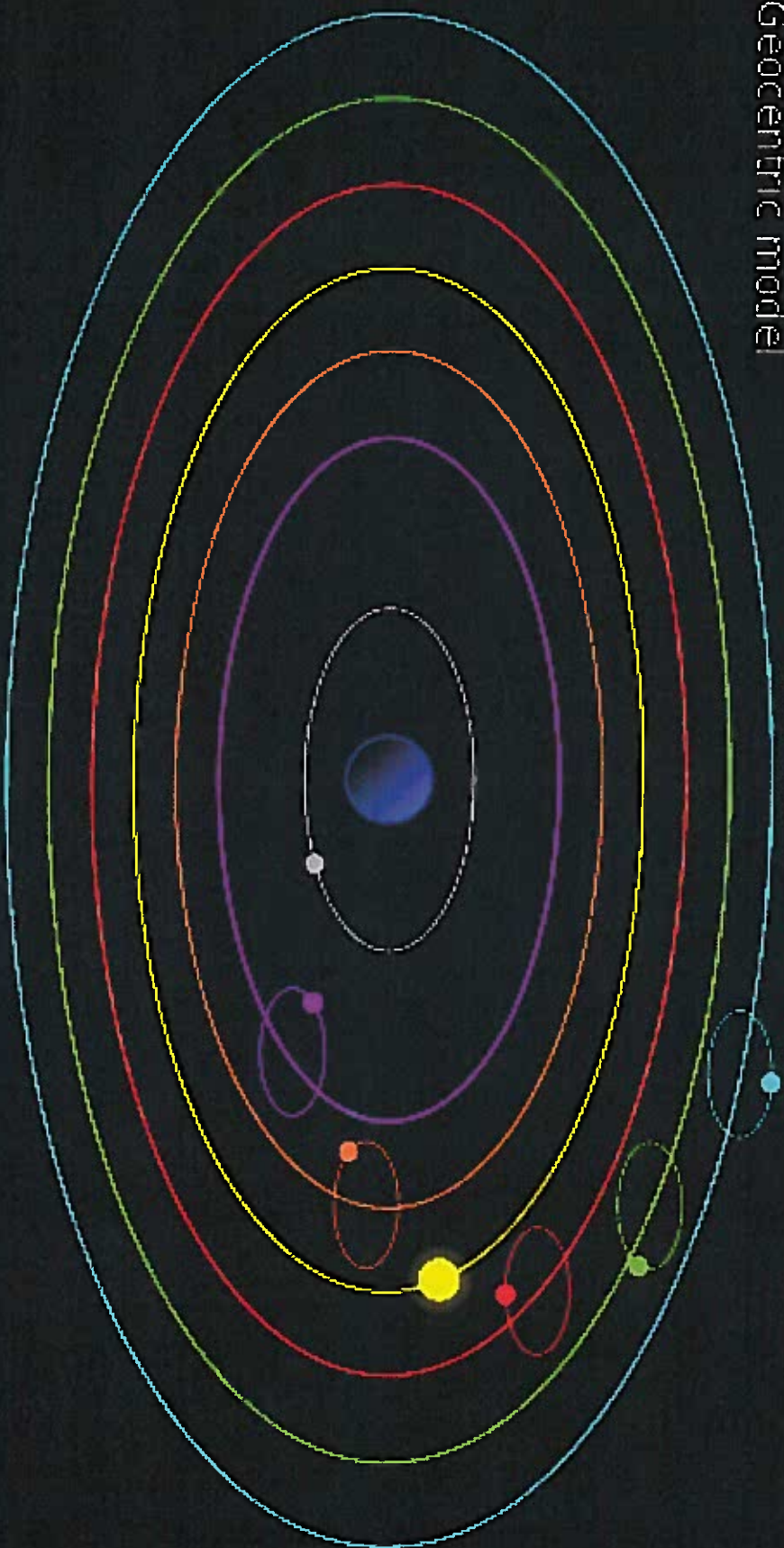
AD 90-168

# Ptolemy





# Geocentric model

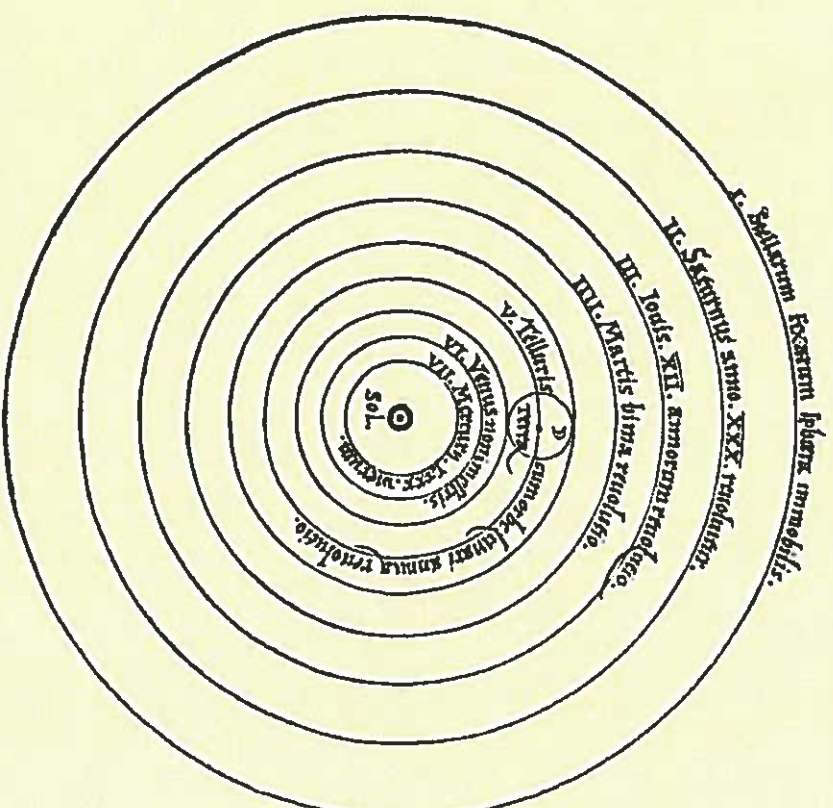


# Copernicus





# Copernican Heliocentrism



1543

# Galileo Galilei





# Galileo



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# Moons of Jupiter January 7, 1610



# 24 February 1616



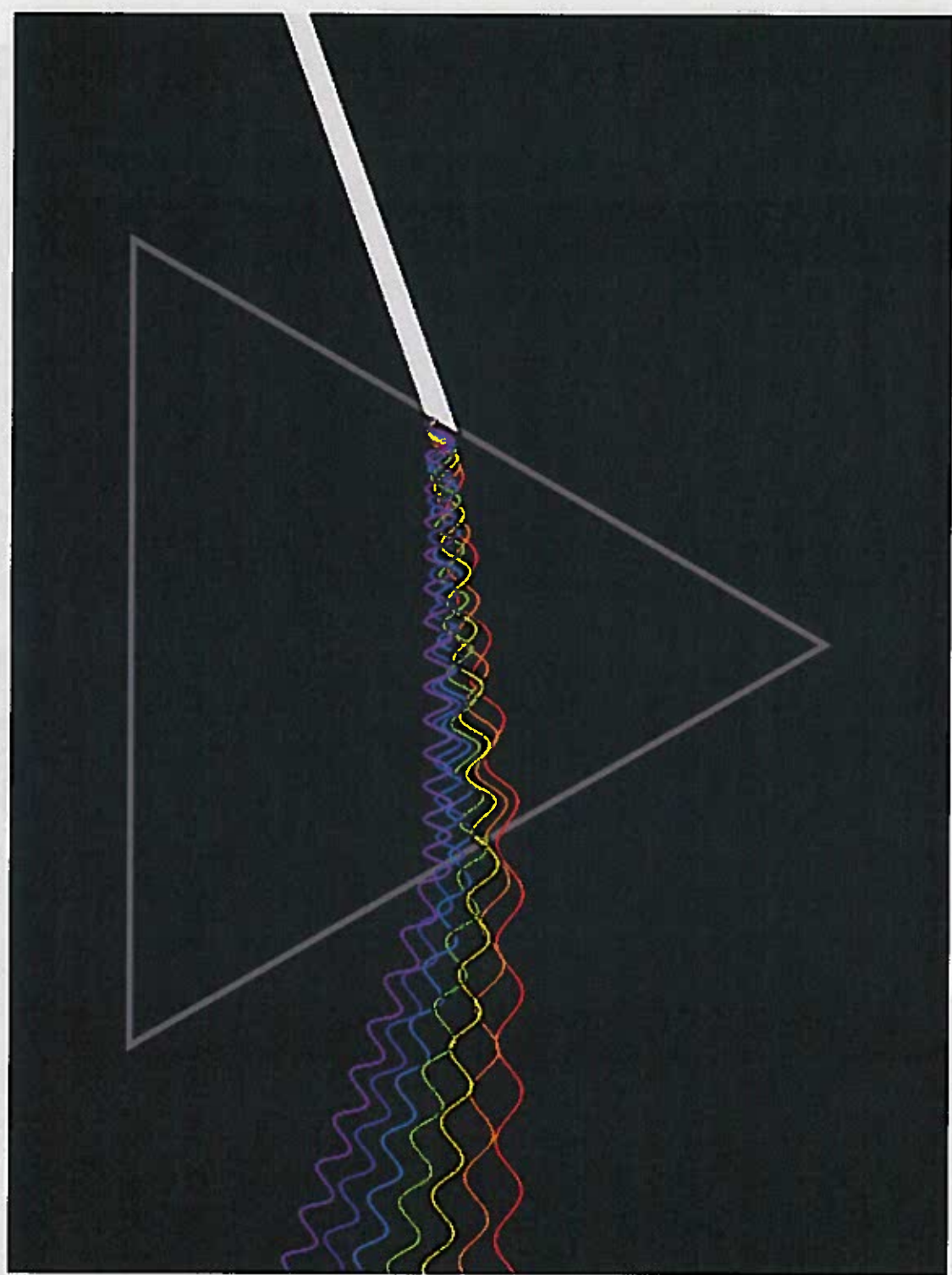
**O**ne of the more notorious statements in the history of science is that one, made on 24 February 1616 by a team of eleven consultants for the Inquisition in Rome, which declared the heliocentric system of Nicolaus Copernicus to be “foolish and absurd in philosophy” and “formally heretical”.<sup>1</sup>



# Isaac Newton

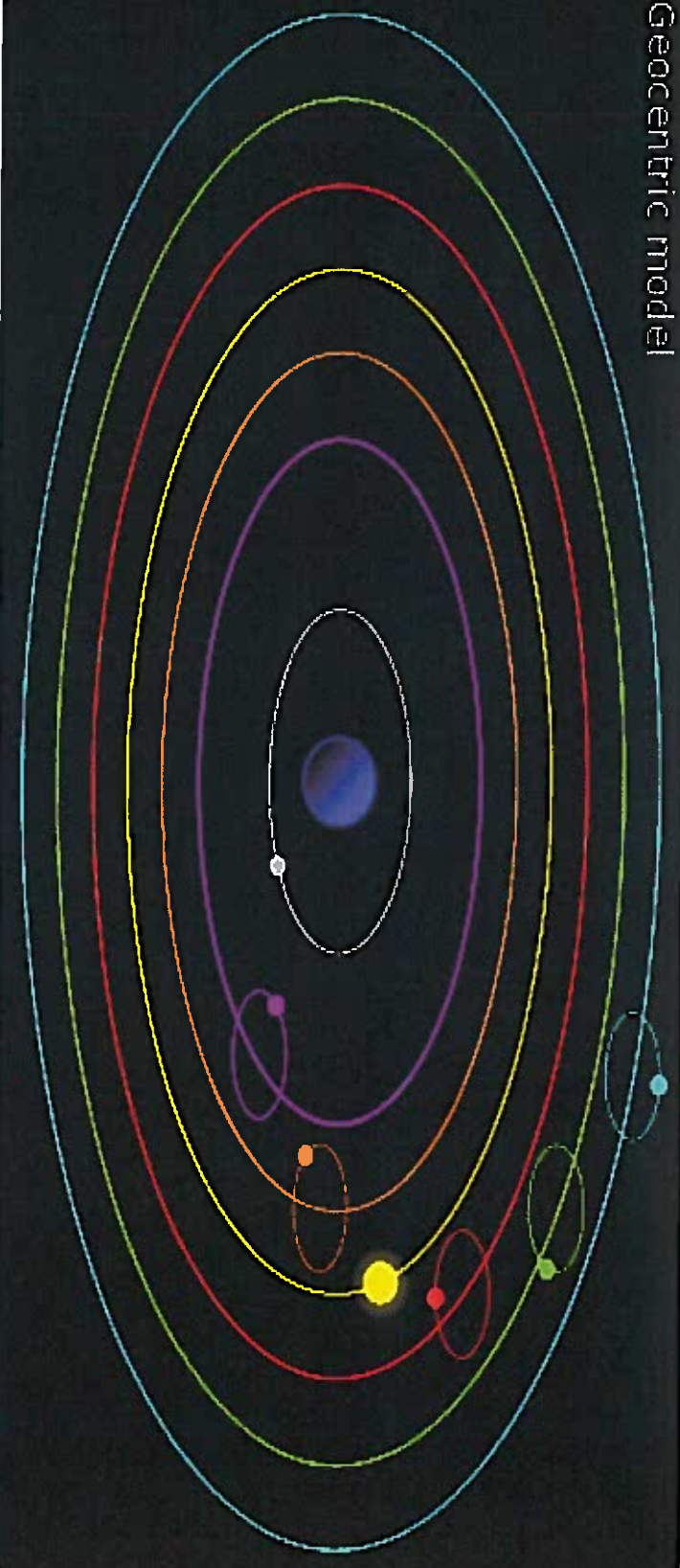


1687

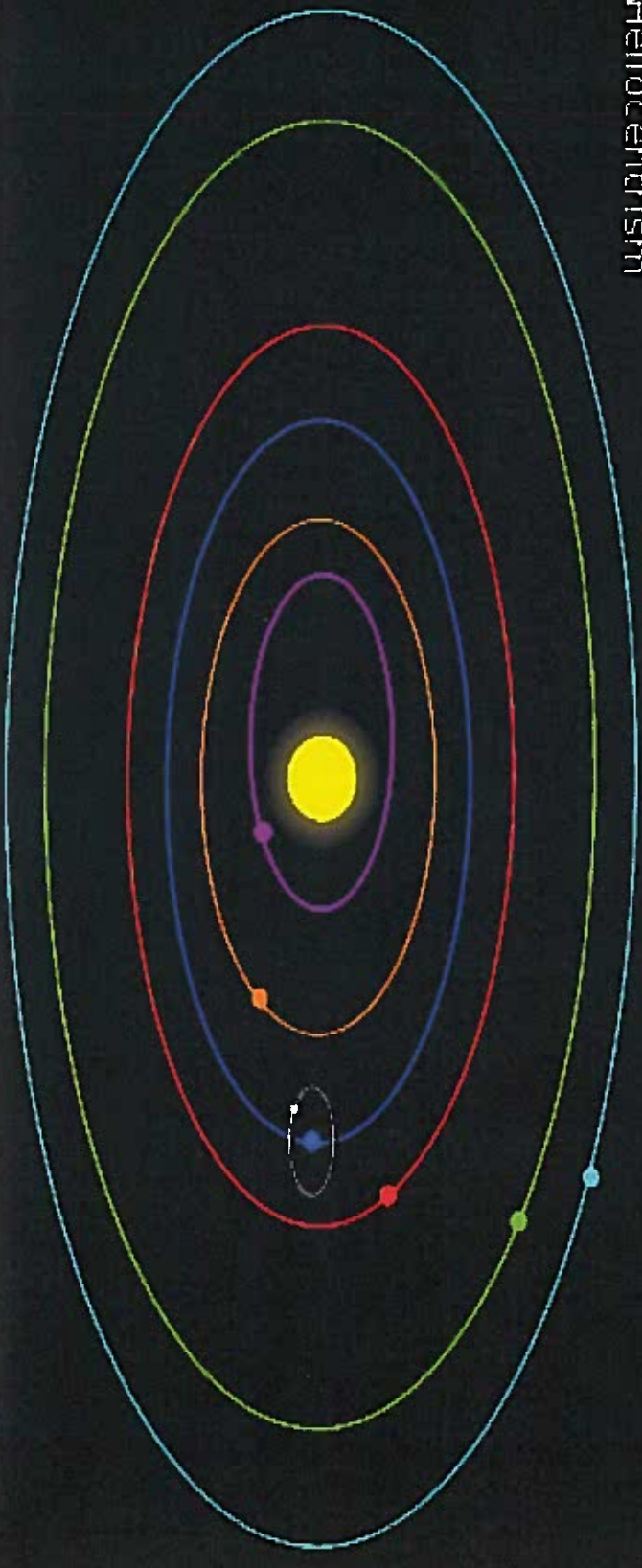




Geocentric model



Heliocentrism



Earth  
Moon  
Mercury  
Venus  
Sun  
Mars  
Jupiter  
Saturn









Mercury

Venus

Earth

Mars

Jupiter

Saturn

Uranus

Neptune

